

Appl. No.: 10/667,720  
Amdt. Dated May 15, 2006  
Reply to Office action of February 22, 2006

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of claims:

Claim 1 (currently amended). A configuration, comprising:

a program-controlled unit including an instruction execution pipeline having a plurality of pipeline stages;

said program-controlled unit configured for executing pipeline instructions instructing said program-controlled unit to stop an individual one of said plurality of pipeline stages, more than one of said plurality of pipeline stages, or all of said plurality of pipeline stages; and

the pipeline instructions stipulating which particular one of said plurality of pipeline stages or which particular ones of said plurality of pipeline stages should be stopped.

Claim 2 (original). The configuration according to claim 1, wherein said program-controlled unit is configured for specifying a length of time for which a respective one of said plurality of pipeline stages is to be stopped.

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Claim 3 (original). The configuration according to claim 1, wherein the instructions, which instruct stopping, or other instructions can stipulate a length of time for which a respective one of said plurality of pipeline stages is to be stopped.

Claim 4 (original). The configuration according to claim 1, wherein said program-controlled unit is configured for beginning to stop a respective one of said plurality of pipeline stages at a particular time after executing an instruction that instructs stopping.

Claim 5 (original). The configuration according to claim 1, wherein said program-controlled unit is configured for beginning to stop a respective one of said plurality of pipeline stages after an instruction that instructs stopping has passed through said instruction execution pipeline.

Claim 6 (original). The configuration according to claim 1, wherein said program-controlled unit is configured for setting a time at which a respective one of said plurality of pipeline stages will begin to be stopped.

Claim 7 (currently amended). The configuration according to claim 1, wherein the pipeline instructions, which instruct

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stopping, or other instructions can stipulate a time for beginning to stop a respective one of said plurality of pipeline stages.

Claim 8 (currently amended). The configuration according to claim 1, wherein said program-controlled unit is configured for blocking execution of the pipeline instructions, which instruct stopping.

Claim 9 (currently amended). The configuration according to claim 8, wherein said program-controlled unit is configured for treating the pipeline instructions, which instruct stopping, as unknown instructions when execution of the pipeline instructions, which instruct stopping, is not enabled.